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the least of his accomplishments is to rescue the reign of Edward II from the undeserved position of comparative insignificance which it has hitherto occupied.

W. E. LUNT.

*Cornell University.*

VEDDER, HENRY C. *The Gospel of Jesus and the Problems of Democracy.* Pp. ix, 410. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

This is an interpretation of the message of Jesus to the twentieth century. The author discusses in the light of a "reconstructed theology" the problem of social justice, the woman problem, the problem of the child and the problems of the slum, vice, crime, disease, poverty and lawlessness. The treatment of each topic, though necessarily brief, is brought down to date. The style is vigorous and popular. There is no uncertainty in Dr. Vedder's mind as to what the attitude of Jesus would be toward any of the above problems nor is the reader left in doubt as to what the author considers that attitude to be. There is so much that is splendid about the broad social spirit that pervades the book and so much that reveals a sincere and dauntless effort on the part of Dr. Vedder to give us a new glimpse of a vitalized Christianity that one regrets to detract from the merits of the undertaking. One wishes that certain passages of which the following is illustrative showed a firmer grasp of the science of economics: ". . . when all forms of profit, and especially rent, dividends and interest, will be recognized as profoundly immoral, since all alike violate the law 'Thou shalt not steal.'" A little more clear thinking and a little less dogmatism on such an economic question as the justification of interest which is at least debatable, would have given Dr. Vedder's main message greater weight with many people equally interested with him in the common welfare.

Again to no advantage the author alienates another group of readers by so sweeping a statement as that "It is estimated that \$1,500,000,000 is spent by the business world every year in advertising, of which every cent is economic waste. . . ." The waste of advertising is so enormous that there is no excuse for stating that the waste amounts to 100 per cent when most students of the subject agree that advertising which is educational serves a truly social purpose.

Despite the above shortcomings which have arisen from a blind adherence to the economics of Karl Marx, the book is well worth reading. It has the merit of challenging thought.

FRANK D. WATSON.

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WALLAS, GRAHAM. *The Great Society.* Pp. xii, 383. Price, \$2.00. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1914.

This book is a companion, and in some particulars, a sequel to the author's *Human Nature in Politics* published in 1908. In this volume the broader scope of social organization is reviewed on its psychological side. It is an attempt to analyze collective human behavior within the tremendously complex conditions of *The Great Society*—a term used to describe our interrelated and interdependent social life created by the industrial revolution as contrasted with the simpler

forms of society prior to the nineteenth century. Social psychology so far, the author feels, has dealt merely with collective social phenomena. It must go farther and apprehend a complexity never before realized. With less acute brains and less retentive memories than the Greeks, we must attack a problem "ten-thousand-fold" more complex. Modern social development has "drifted" long enough. It is now creating forces that must be "controlled," and the first element of control is an adequate comprehension of the problem. It is not a little disconcerting, however, to learn that "the influence of the professed psychologists upon either sociological writers or the practical politicians has been curiously small."

In the earlier chapters the author discusses the function of social psychology as the analysis of "dispositions," as the inherited type facts of social consciousness and their relation to instincts and intelligence. "Human nature" is the sum total of human dispositions. Every individual through organic heredity begins with innumerable psychological tendencies which from the moment of birth are modified by acquired experiences. If this concept brings us perilously near determinism we are reminded that "throughout the history of mankind and in every branch of science, those who have really advanced our knowledge of causes and effects have felt their energy, and even their sense of 'freedom,' to be increased rather than paralyzed by what they have learnt." This fearless pursuit of the laws of social action seems hardly to accord with the proposition that "The purpose of social psychology is to guide human action." One may ask whether it is the business of any science to guide or control the phenomena it describes. We are inclined to agree with Pearson in his *Grammar of Science* that the business of science is *accurate description*. As a matter of fact, the value of the present volume is in proportion to the accuracy with which it describes the psychic processes which mould, rather than control, the great society.

In tracing out the psychical processes in the social complexity of the great society due to habit, to motives of fear, to pleasure and pain, to love and hatred, to thought and suggestibility, the author has exhibited a great deal of keen penetration that will help to make clear the wider value of psychology both for the sociologist and practical politician. In fact, the last three chapters on the organization of thought, of will and of happiness are devoted to the task of discovering how far the existing forms of social organization may be improved by the application of the laws of social psychology. This is the task of the constructive statesman rather than the professional psychologist. It is not always the case that the two functions of scientist and statesman are so happily blended as they are in the author of this book.

J. P. LICHTENBERGER.

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WALLE, PAUL. (Translated by Bernard Miall.) *Bolivia: Its People and Its Resources; Its Railways, Mines, and Rubber-Forests*. Pp. 407. Price, \$3.00. New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1914.

This book presents the most complete account and the best interpretation of Bolivia that has been written. The author, sent to Bolivia in 1911-12 by the French Ministry of Commerce to report on the economic and commercial possi-